

Response to RFP Questions

1. Current Service Provider

The FECC utilizes the State of Montana network, Summitnet, for Internet connectivity and associated services. However, Spectrum Enterprise currently furnishes an ethernet virtual private line to connect our facility with the state datacenters in both Helena and Billings. In addition to the buildout of this new fiber optic line, EVPL service will need to be established to mirror our current connectivity with the state network, thus creating a multi-homed connection across both service providers.

2. Route of Current Circuit

FECC has been unable to obtain this information from Spectrum. It is currently understood the existing connection travels south along Stillwater Rd, where it eventually joins the Spectrum/Bresnan network.

3. Define Diversity

The intent of this project is to install a new fiber optic line to connect the FECC to an existing ISP, whose network infrastructure is sufficiently disparate from that of Spectrum between the FECC and Helena. For the length of the newly installed fiber, a minimum of 15ft spacing from existing lines should be enforced, and no existing lays or trenches are to be used.

4. Bandwidth requirements

A minimum of 100 megabits upstream and downstream will be required. Ideally, options for 500mb and gigabit service will also be included.

4. IP Space/BGP Peering

FECC does not possess an IP range, nor is it classified as an AS. As such, BGP peering is not currently a consideration.

6. Building ingress for fiber

A separate underground vault and building ingress exists on the east side of the building. Above ground access to the vault is adjacent to the building, within the fenced perimeter of the communication center. Access to this vault from outside the fenced area will require directional drilling underneath a parking lot.

7. Latecomer fees

There are no specific minimum requirements for latecomer fee agreements.

8. Expected Maintenance and Monitoring

The selected vendor will retain ownership of the full length of the newly installed fiber line between the FECC building and the provider network. With this in mind, expectations of the selected vendor are to maintain the newly installed fiber, including timely repairs and necessary equipment upgrades. The vendor will also be expected to monitor the health of, and ensure connectivity through, this addition to their network with the understanding it is intended to support critical infrastructure and life safety operations.